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Dear Friend,

With the coronavirus outbreak still ongoing, I wanted to check-in and encourage you to continue to stay home, practice social distancing, and follow the other restrictions in the [New York State on PAUSE plan](#). We are making progress and there is a light at the end of the tunnel. However, for now, we must stay the course so we can finally get this virus under control.

On my website I put together a [Coronavirus Resources Page](#) with updated news and information on the situation in Nassau County. Please visit kathleenrice.house.gov/coronavirus/ for more information. And if you have any coronavirus-related questions, please call the Nassau County Coronavirus hotline at (516) 227-9639.

As we continue to navigate this new reality, and find ourselves with more free time at home, I **encourage you to take a moment to [fill out the 2020 Census](#)**. Because it is critically important that you and your family are counted.

The results of the Census determine where \$675 billion in federal funding is allocated each year. These funds go directly to local schools, hospitals, fire departments, and roads in our communities. Medicaid, Medicare, highway planning and construction, Head Start, the National School Lunch Program, and the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program are just a few of the federal programs whose allocation depends on Census data.

Simply put: the more people we count, the more federal funding our communities will receive.

By now, everyone should have received an invitation from the Census Bureau in the mail to participate in the 2020 Census. **You can fill out the Census online at [My2020census.gov](https://my2020census.gov), over the phone by calling (844) 330-2020, or through the mail by returning the form that was sent to you.** You'll need your Census ID that you received with your Census invitation in the mail to get started. Please note that phone lines are open seven days a week, from 7 AM EST to 2 AM EST.

You can complete the Census online or by phone in 13 languages: English, Spanish, Chinese, Vietnamese, Korean, Russian, Arabic, Tagalog, Polish, French, Haitian Creole, Portuguese, and Japanese. **To respond by phone in one of these languages, please visit the Census Bureau website to find the phone number associated with your preferred language.**

I also want to address some of the rumors and misinformation about the 2020 Census:

When you participate in the Census, your privacy is protected. By law, the information included in your responses will not be publicly released in a way that could identify you or anyone in your household, and none of the information in your responses can be used against you by a government agency or court.

The Census Bureau will NEVER ask for your credit card number or other personal financial information, your Social Security number, or for donations of any kind. If someone claiming to be from the Census Bureau is asking you for this information, it's a scam and you should not cooperate.

There will NOT be a question asking about your, or anyone in your household's, citizenship status. The Census counts every living person in the United States, regardless of their citizenship.

It is so critical for you to participate and over the next few weeks, the Census Bureau will be sending out periodic reminders to every household that hasn't yet completed the Census. By the end of April, if you haven't responded by phone or online, you will receive a paper questionnaire to respond by mail, before the Census begins in-person follow-up visits this summer. **Please note that the Census Bureau has delayed these follow-up visits to later this summer in accordance with public health guidelines to stop the spread of COVID-19, and may need to continue to delay those efforts further.**

For further information, please visit the official 2020 Census website [here](#).

Thank you for participating and stay safe!

Kathleen

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